Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/21/2023 4:21:26 AM
First name: Camden
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: I am writing in support of the Pactola Reservoir-Rapid Creek Watershed Withdrawal.

I believe that the Withdrawal should be both approved and expanded to included all of the federal lands of the Black Hills. The Pactola Reservoir, the Rapid Creek watershed, and the whole Black Hills National Forest should be protected from the environmental damage caused by mining operations.

This watershed supplies the residents of Rapid City, the Ellsworth Air Force Base, and the surrounding areas with drinking water. This land is sacred to the Lakota People, and should be respected by keeping further mining operations from desecrating the area.

I ask that the U.S Forest Service do an Environmental Assessment (EA) and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) when the EA is completed.

The land and the waterways of the Black Hills should be protected for sake of the people who occupy it. It should be protected for the sake of preserving the natural beauty of the land. It should be protected because it is a National Forest. It should be protected because it is sacred land. It should be protected because it is drinking water. It should be protected because healthy ecosystems are more valuable than gold.

I ask that the USDI Bureau of Land Management approve the Withdrawal put forward by the U.S Forest Service and protect the sacred land of the Black Hills.